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Applicant(s): **James M. Zavislan**

Docket No.

ML-0459C

Serial No.

08641,795

Filing Date

08/18/00

Examiner

H. Pham

Group Art Unit

2877

Invention: **IMAGING SYSTEM USING POLARIZATION EFFECTS TO ENHANCE IMAGE QUALITY**

I hereby certify that this **Response to Action Dated 2/23/01**

(Identify type of correspondence)

is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: The

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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
PATENT EXAMINING OPERATION

Applicant: James M. Zavislan
Serial Number: 09/641,795
Filing Date: 8/18/00
Title: Imaging System Using Polarization Effects To Enhance Image Quality
Examiner: H. Pham, Art Unit 2877
Attorney Docket: ML-0459C

5/13
G. S. Stanley
6-f-cl

RESPONSE TO ACTION DATED 2/23/01

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-identified Application as follows:

In the Specification

Delete paragraph which was added by Preliminary Amendment on page 1 at lines 3-4, and replace with the following paragraph:

This application is a continuation of Application Serial No. 08/966,046, filed November 7, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 6,134,009, issued October 17, 2000.

Delete paragraph on page 6, line 22 to page 7, line 7, and replace with the following paragraph:

Because the incident polarization 46 contains components of polarization parallel to both optical axes of the prism sections, the prism 42 splits or shears the incident beam 56 into two linearly polarized beams, A and B. The axes of polarization for the two beams are parallel to each of the optical axes of the two prisms in the Nomarski's prism. The shear is in a direction transverse to the direction of propagation of the incident beam

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